



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 09389/002001

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Fernando C. Frimm *et al.*  
Serial No.: 08/925,506  
Filed : September 8, 1997  
Title : SUBMERSIBLE OFFSHORE VESSEL

Art Unit : 3672  
Examiner : T. Mayo

#59  
ETC  
4/14/99

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**RECEIVED**

APR 13 1999

GROUP 3600

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 14, 1999, please amend this application as follows:

**In the Drawings:**

A copy of Figures 1-3 and 5-10, with the changes marked in red, is submitted herewith for the Examiner's approval. A separate letter to the draftsman is attached.

**In the Claims:**

Please delete claims 7-10 and amend the remaining claims as follows:

Claim 1, line 12, please replace "such four" with --said at least four--.

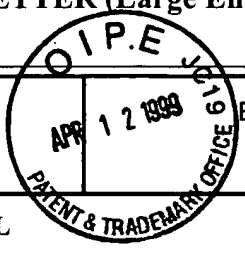
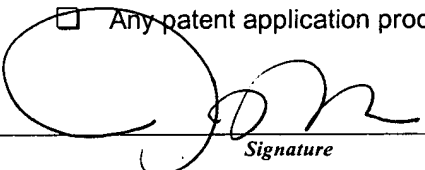

Please add the following new claims:

11. The semisubmersible vessel of claim 1, wherein the forward and aft sections of the ring pontoon have a reduced sectional height compared with the starboard and port sections of the ring pontoon.

91 12. The semisubmersible vessel of claim 1, wherein the ring pontoon is non-square.

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|  |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b>   |                                     |   |                                | Docket No.<br>09389/002001 |                   |
| Applicant(s): <b>Fernando C. FRIMM et al.</b>  |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| Serial No.<br>08/925,506   | Filing Date<br>September 8, 1997    |  | Examiner<br>T. Mayo            | Group Art Unit<br>3672     |                   |
| Invention: <b>SUBMERSIBLE OFFSHORE VESSEL</b>  |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| <u>TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u>  |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.  |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.   |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| <b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>   |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
|  | CLAIMS REMAINING<br>AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST #<br>PREV. PAID FOR   | NUMBER EXTRA<br>CLAIMS PRESENT | RATE                       | ADDITIONAL<br>FEE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS   | 15 -                                | 20 =  | 0 x                            | \$18.00                    | \$0.00            |
| INDEP. CLAIMS  | 3 -                                 | 5 =   | 0 x                            | \$78.00                    | \$0.00            |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>   |                                     |   |                                |                            | \$0.00            |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>   |                                     |   |                                |                            | <b>\$0.00</b>     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____<br>A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.<br><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>500-591</b><br>A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| <br>Signature   |                                     |   | Dated: 4/8/99                  |                            |                   |
| <b>Jonathan P. Osha</b><br><b>ROSENTHAL &amp; OSHA L.L.P.</b><br>700 Louisiana, Suite 4550<br>Houston, Texas 77002<br><br>Telephone: (713) 228-8600<br>Facsimile: (713) 228-8778   |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">         I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on <b>APRIL 8, 1999</b> with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.<br/><br/> <br/>         Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence<br/><br/> <b>Toni Hill</b><br/>         Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence       </div>   |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |
| CC:  |                                     |   |                                |                            |                   |